What is claimed is:

1. A method of forming a subtraction image, comprising the steps of:

i) acquiring a radiation image signal from a radiation image of an object before being injected with a contrast medium, the radiation image signal being made up of a series of image signal components,

ii) acquiring a radiation image signal from a radiation image of the same object after being injected with the contrast medium, the radiation image signal being made up of a series of image signal components, and

iii) performing a subtraction process for subtracting the image signal components of a plurality of the thus acquired radiation image signals, which image signal components represent corresponding pixels in the radiation images represented by the plurality of the radiation image signals, from one another, whereby a contrasted radiation image, in which a pattern of a specific structure of the object having been contrasted with the contrast medium in the radiation image has been extracted or enhanced, is formed,

wherein the contrast medium is a liposome, which contains a hydrophobic iodine compound as a film forming constituent.

2. A method as defined in Claim 1 wherein the

hydrophobic iodine compound is a 1,3,5-triiodobenzene derivative having at least one substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

3. A method as defined in Claim 1 wherein the liposome contains at least one lipid, which is selected from the group consisting of a phosphatidyl choline and a phosphatidyl serine, as a film forming constituent.

4. A method as defined in Claim 2 wherein the liposome contains at least one lipid, which is selected from the group consisting of a phosphatidyl choline and a phosphatidyl serine, as a film forming constituent.

5. A method as defined in Claim 1 wherein the liposome contains a phosphoric acid dialkyl ester, which is a diester of an alkyl having at least six carbon atoms, as a film forming constituent.

6. A method as defined in Claim 2 wherein the liposome contains a phosphoric acid dialkyl ester, which is a diester of an alkyl having at least six carbon atoms, as a film forming constituent.

7. A method as defined in Claim 3 wherein the liposome contains a phosphoric acid dialkyl ester, which is a diester of an alkyl having at least six carbon atoms, as a film forming constituent.

8. A method as defined in Claim 4 wherein the liposome contains a phosphoric acid dialkyl ester, which

is a diester of an alkyl having at least six carbon atoms, as a film forming constituent.

9. A method as defined in Claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

10. A method as defined in Claim 2 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

11. A method as defined in Claim 3 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

12. A method as defined in Claim 4 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

13. A method as defined in Claim 5 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

14. A method as defined in Claim 6 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon

atoms.

15. A method as defined in Claim 7 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.

16. A method as defined in Claim 8 wherein the hydrophobic iodine compound has a residue of a cholesterol derivative as a substituent group having at least 18 carbon atoms.